(c) The measures taken to improve the availaility of power in the Northern Region include maximising the generation from existing capacity, expediting the commissioning of new power plants, implementation of R&M programmes, reduction in T&D losses, effective load management and energy conservation measures and arranging the transfer of power for neighbouring states/system.

Rise in Price of Electricity in the Eastern Region

2048. SHRI JIBON ROY:
SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank consultant M/s ECC has recommended not to use operational regulation for default in payment;

(b) the percentage reduction in PLF in Kahalgaon and Farakka due to regulation by NTPC to Eastern Grid from the last week of January, 1997; and

(c) rise in price of electricity in the Eastern Region due to recovery of fixed charges at low generation level during regulation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Eastern Region of the country is surplus in power. However, the regulation of power supply by NTPC has during the year resulted in a reduction of PLF by 3.68% for Kahalgaon and 6.17% for Farakka till 28.2.1997.

(c) The retail price of electricity charged to the consumer is determined by the SEB based on a variety of factors, including the pooled cost of power generated and purchased by it. The retail prices are not varied frequently. However, it is correct that if for some period the power purchased from NTPC stations by a SEB is less than 68.5% PLF the fixed charges per kwh during that period increases.

त्रिपुरा में गांवों का विद्युतीकरण

2049. **श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे:** क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि त्रिपुरा में अब तक केवल 60 प्रतिशत गांवों का ही विद्युतीकरण हुआ है और वहां बिजली की भारी कटौती की जा रही है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या सरकार ने राज्य में अनुसूचित जाति/अनुसचित जनजाति के लोगों को निःशुल्क विद्युत आपूर्ति करने के लिए कोई प्रावधान किया है;

(घ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ङ) उस राज्य में ग्रामीण विद्युतीकरण का काम पूरा करने के लिए क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं?

विद्युत मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा० एस० वेणुगोपालाचारी): (क) और (ख) वर्ष 1991 की जनगणना के अनुसार जनवरी, 1997 के अंत तक त्रिपुरा में 856 गांवों में से 780 गांवों (91%) को विद्युतीकृत किया जा चुका है। त्रिपुरा सरकार ने सूचित किया है कि विद्युत की 22.7% व्यस्ततमकालीन कमी है। विद्युत की उपलब्धता के आधार पर दिन-प्रति-दिन आधार पर लोड शेडिंग किया जा रहा है।

(ग) जी, नहीं।

(घ) प्रश्न उत्पन्न नहीं होता।

(ङ) ग्रामीण विद्युतीकरण एक सतत प्रक्रिया है। वर्ष 1996-97 के दौरान ग्रामीण विद्युतीकरण निगम ने त्रिपुरा में 20 गांवों का विद्युतीकरण किए जाने हेतु 6.00 करोड़ रुपए का आवंटन किया है। वित्तीय संसाधनों की उपलब्धता, राज्य में विद्युत आपूर्ति की स्थिति, पारेषण एवं वितरण प्रणाली का सम्पूर्ण नेटवर्क तथा अन्य आवश्यक निवेशों के अध्याधीन नौवीं और उत्तरवर्ती पंचवर्षीय योजना में राज्य के शेष गैर-विद्युतीकृत गांवों को विद्युतीकृत कर लिया जाएगा।

Liquid Fuel Based Power Projects

2050. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision for setting up of liquid fuel

based generation units and whether there is any proposal to generate 12000 MW new capacity from such units;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the locations of the proposed units and by when these are likely to be set up; and

(c) how many units have signed power purchase agreements with Government and what are the reasons for not signing agreements by the remaining units so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India have issued guidelines for recommending projects for liquid fuel linkage to the concerned States within the capacity (in MW) allocated to them. The recommendations of the State Governments are being received based on which fuel linkages would be firmed up.

(c) Government of India does not sign any Power Purchase Agreement with Independent Power Producers (IPPs). PPAs are signed between the IPP and the concerned State Electricity Board/ Electricity Utility.

Discrimination in Wages of NTPC Workers

2051. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some discrimination in wages of NTPC workers has been brought to the notice of Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any action has been taken in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) do (d) Do not arise.

Failure of Northern Grid

2052. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that of late Northern States are facing acute power shortage due to frequent and massive failure in Northern Grid;

(b) if so, what are the details of Grid failure due to tripping and other reasons during the last one year; and

(c) remedial measures taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) During the period November, 1996 to January, 1997 there were some grid disturbances in the Northern Grid which affected the power supply in the Northern States.

(b) The detail of the Northern Grid failure due to tripping and other reasons during the last one year is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) The Ministry of Power Constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Member (Grid & Operation), Central Electricity Authority on 20th December, 1996 to analyse the causes leading to frequent disturbances in the Northern Grid and to suggest remedial measures to avoid recurrence of such disturbances. The State Governments NTPC and Power Grid have been asked to implement the recommendations made by the Committee to avoid recurrence of grid failure.